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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Grayzel et al.

Serial No.: 09/912,008

Filed: July 24, 2001

Group Art Unit: 3731

Examiner: V. Bui

For: STIFFENED BALLOON CATHETER FOR DILATATION
AND STENTINGMAIL STOP AMENDMENT
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AMENDMENT, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on November 15, 2004

Signature: 

Theodore J. Mlynar, Reg. No. 40,096

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 15, 2004, please consider and enter into the record the following amendments and remarks:

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A stiffened dilating balloon for use in the human body comprising:

an expandable balloon including a plurality of longitudinally discontinuous stiffening members disposed along a perimeter of said balloon;

wherein said balloon is made of a flexible material;

wherein the stiffening members are less flexible than said balloon;

wherein at least one of the stiffening members is directly connected to another one of the stiffening members by a filament; and